THEATRE ROYAL DUBLIN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1957

Under the patronage of His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin.

OUR LADY'S CHORAL SOCIETY
IN ASSOCIATION WITH RADIO EIREANN

presents

REQUIEM MASS

GIUSEPPE VERDI (1830-1901)

GLORIA DAVY *(Soprano)* **ANTONIO GALIE** *(Tenor)*

EBE STIGNANI *(Mezzo-Soprano)* **PLINIO CLABASSI** *(Bass)*

OUR LADY'S CHORAL SOCIETY

(Chorus Master—OLIVER O'BRIEN, B.Mus.)

RADIO EIREANN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

(Leader—RENZO MARCHIONNI)

Conductor

MAESTRO ALBERTO EREDE

Our Lady's Choral Society

Verdi's great religious masterpiece, dating from 1874, is marked not only by the extraordinary melodic invention that was at all times characteristic of his genius, but also by the noble and richly coloured orchestration of the sublime works of his later period that began with AIDA (produced three years before the REQUIEM). The Directors of OUR LADY'S CHORAL SOCIETY feel that a really well-worthy performance of such a great masterpiece can best be ensured by engaging soloists familiar as only Verdi's countrymen can be with his *oeuvre* as a whole, and who, in addition to interpreting the chief roles in his operas with distinction, have been acclaimed for their singing of REQUIEM in the devotional spirit that the work demands. For REQUIEM is unquestionably a devotional work. Uninformed criticism has tended to emphasise its affinities with opera but it is, in fact, as distinct in style from the master's operatic works as Handel's oratorios are from Handel's operas. GLORIA DAVY, EBE STIGNANI, ANTONIO GALIE and PLINIO CLABASSI are all distinguished artists of international fame. What is even more important, is that they have sung REQUIEM with outstanding success in Italy, and OUR LADY'S CHORAL SOCIETY is proud to be able to introduce them to Irish audiences in this unique masterpiece.

MAESTRO ALBERTO EREDE

REQUIEM AND KYRIE

FOUR SOLO VOICES AND CHORUS :

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet.

Eternal rest give to them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them A hymn, O God. becometh thee in Sion; and a vow shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem: hear my prayer; all flesh shall come to thee. Eternal rest.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

DIES IRAE

CHORUS :

Dies irae, dies illa,
solvet saeculum in favilla
teste David cum Sibylla.

Quantus tremor est futurus,
quando judex est venturus,
cuncta stricte discussurus!

Nigher still, and still more nigh
Draws the day of prophecy,
Doom'd to melt the earth and sky.
Oh. what trembling there shall be,
When the world its Judge shall see,
Coming in dread majesty!
Hark! the trump, with thrilling tone,
From sepulchral regions lone,
Summons all before the throne:

CHORUS :

Tuba mirum spargens sonum
per sepulcra regionum
coget omnes ante thronum.

SOLO BASS :

Mors stupebit et natura,
cum resurget creatura
judicanti responsura

Time and death it doth appal
To see the buried ages all
Rise to answer at the call.

SOLO MEZZO :

Liber scriptus proferetur
in quo totum continetur,
unde mundus judicetur.
Judex ergo cum sedebit,
quidquid latet, apparebit;
nil inultum remanebit.

Now the books are open spread;
Now the writing must be read,
Which condemns the quick and dead:
Now, before the Judge severe,
Hidden things must all appear;
Nought can pass unpunish'd here.

TRIO *(Soprano, Mezzo, Tenor)* :

Quid sum miser tunc dicturus,
quem patronum rogaturus,
cum vix justus sit securus?

What shall guilty I then plead?
Who for me will intercede,
When the saints shall comfort need?

QUARTET AND CHORUS :

Rex tremendae majestatis,
qui salvandos salvas gratis,
salva me, fons pietatis.

King of dreadful majesty,
Who dost freely justify,
Fount of pity, save thou me!

REQUIEM AND KYRIE

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The Directors of

IRISH
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OUR LADY'S
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Every Success
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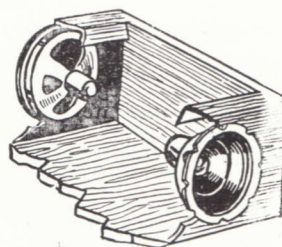
VERDI'S
REQUIEM

the super black box

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Duet *(Soprano, Mezzo)*:

Recordare, Jesu pie,
quod sum causa tuae viae;
ne me perdas illa die.
Quaerens me sedisti lassus,
redemisti crucem passus;
tantus labor non sit cassus.
Juste judex ultionis,
donum fac remissionis
ante diem rationis.

Recollect, O Love divine,
'Twas for this lost sheep of thine
Thou thy glory didst resign:
Sattest wearied seeking me:
Sufferedst upon the tree:
Let not vain thy labour be.
Judge of justice, hear my prayer;
Spare me, Lord, in mercy spare;
Ere the reckoning-day appear.

Solo Tenor:

Ingemisco tamquam reus,
culpa rubet vultus meus;
supplicanti parce, Deus.

Qui Mariam absolvisti
et latronem exaudisti,
mihi quoque spem dedisti.

Preces meae non sunt dignae;
sed tu bonus fac benigne
ne perenni cremer igne.

Inter oves locum praesta,
et ab haedis me sequestra,
statuens in parte dextra.

Lo, thy gracious face I seek;
Shame and grief are on my cheek;
Sighs and tears my sorrow speak.
Thou didst Mary's guilt forgive;
Didst the dying thief receive;
Hence doth hope within me live.
Worthless are my prayers, I know,
Yet, oh, cause me not to go
Into everlasting woe.
Sever'd from the guilty band,
Make me with thy sheep to stand,
Placing me on thy right hand.

Solo Bass:

Confutatis maledictis,
flammis acribus addictis,
voca me cum benedictis.

Oro supplex et acclinis:
cor contritum quasi cinis;
gere curam mei finis.

When the cursed in anguish flee
Into flames of misery;
With the blest then call thou me.
Suppliant in the dust I lie;
My heart a cinder, crush'd and dry;
Help me, Lord, when death is nigh.

Quartet and Chorus:

Lacrimosa dies illa,
qua resurget ex favilla,
judicandus homo reus.
huic ergo, parce, Deus.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem. Amen.

Full of tears and full of dread,
Is the day that wakes the dead,
Call all. with solemn blast,
From the ashes of the past:
Lord of marcy, Jesu blest,
Grant the faithful light and rest. Amen.

INTERVAL

OFFERTORIUM

Four Solo Voices:

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas fidelium defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu: libera eas de ore leonis ne absorbeat eas tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum. Sed signifer sanctus Michael repraesentat eas in lucem sanctam, quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.

O Lord Jesus Christ, king of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hell and from the deep pit: deliver them from the lion's mouth, that hell may not swallow them up, and they may not fall into darkness, but may the holy standard-bearer Michael lead them into the holy light; which thou didst promise to Abraham and to his seed of old.

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis, offerimus. Tu suscipe pro animabus illis quarum hodie memoriam facimus: fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.

We offer to thee, O Lord, sacrifices and prayers: do thou receive them in behalf of those souls whom we commemorate this day. Grant them, O Lord, to pass from death to that life; which thou didst promise to Abraham and to his seed of old.

SANCTUS

FUGUE FOR DOUBLE CHORUS:

Sanctus, sanctus sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory, Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

AGNUS DEI

SOPRANO, MEZZO AND CHORUS:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, give them rest.
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, give them rest.
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, give them rest everlasting.

LUX AETERNA

MEZZO, TENOR AND CHORUS:

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord. With thy saints for ever, because thou are merciful. Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. With thy saints for ever, because thou art merciful.

LIBERA ME

SOLO SOPRANO AND CHORUS:

Libera me Domine de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda, quando coeli movendi sunt et terra, dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit atque ventura ira: quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.

Dies irae, dies illa, calamitatis et miseriae, dies magna et amara valde, dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, O Lord, from ever-lasting death in that dreadful day; when heaven and earth shall quake: when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire. I tremble and am sore afraid for the judgment and the wrath to come. When heaven and earth shall quake. On that day! that day of wrath, of woe and of tribulation! a great day and exceeding bitter: when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire. Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Deliver me, O Lord, from everlasting death in that dreadful day; when heaven and earth shall quake. When thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

ANTONIO GALIE

PLINIO CLABASSI

EBE STIGNANI

GLORIA DAVY

Tributes to the Choir

★ 1947—**International Eisteddfod, Llangollen, Wales.**

"The choir that loves to sing, that dances as it sings. Here was singing at its purest and best."

—Sir Hugh Roberton, Conductor of Glasgow Orpheus Choir.

★ 1950—**"Messiah" at Teatro Argentina, Rome, with Orchestra di S. Cecilia.**

"Your choir gave a performance that was well up to the artistic level demanded by the tradition of our Accademia."

—Maestro Corti, Director of Accademia di S. Cecilia.

★ 1950—**"Requiem" of Verdi at Theatre des Champs Elysees, Paris, with Orchestre de la Société des Concerts du Conservatoire.**

"This is one of the best choirs that I have ever conducted. Its performance took Paris by storm."

—Jean Martinon, Conductor of Lamoureux Orchestra.

★ 1953—**"Dream of Gerontius" at Dublin with Halle Orchestra.**

"A truly magnificent choir, better than anything in Europe or America. This performance has given me something that I will remember until the end of my days."

—Sir John Barbirolli, Conductor of the Halle Orchestra.

★ 1956—**"Dream of Gerontius" at Berlin Festival with Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.**

"It was a sensational success. The performance of your choir was magnificent. I am proud to have been responsible for bringing the choir to Berlin."

—Dr. G. Von Westermann, Director of Berlin Festival and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.

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